



# SOUTH COUNTY MAYORS GROUP

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ELK RIDGE GENOLA GOSHEN MAPLETON PAYSON SALEM

SANTAQUIN SPANISH FORK SPRINGVILLE WOODLAND  
HILLS

UNITY PRIDE VISION

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April 19, 2002

U. S. House of representatives

Committee on Resources

Subcommittee on Water and Power

Washington, DC 20515

Dear Committee Members:

My name is Randy Brailsford. I am the Mayor of the city of Salem, Utah. I am also chairman of the *South County Mayors Group* in Utah County. We represent all ten communities in the south half of Utah County, located approximately 50 miles south of Salt Lake City. We represent our constituents at the grass roots level. It is, therefore, our solemn obligation to see to the future needs of our children and grandchildren. Quoting from Parley R. Neeley from June 1948 "It will not be possible, when traveling from Salt Lake City to Nephi, to tell where one city ends and another begins.' These are dreams of our old men and the visions our young men may actually behold." Our communities cover an area of about 200 square miles. We are in one of the fastest growing areas in the state. We have experienced approximately 6% growth per year during the last 6 years. We anticipate a population of over 600,000 by 2070. The Bonneville Unit of the Central Utah Project is our last chance for additional water to meet these projected needs.

Our ten communities have been trying to plan for the future of our residents well into the future. We have organized an interlocal association called the South Utah Valley Municipal Water Association (SUVMWA) to organize and plan for the future water needs of our communities. This group has been very involved with the Department of Interior and the Central Utah Water Conservancy District in trying to contract for our future water needs. We have negotiated a contract for 1590 acre feet of Central Utah Project (CUP) water and we were very close to signing a contract for an additional 9610 acre feet of CUP water. That contract got side-tracked and has not been completed to date. We recently received a letter from our Governor dealing with the water shortage and how critical conservation will be. This project is the only future source of water we have for our area. It is critical to our residents that this water be available to south Utah Valley. Attached is a map of the earlier SFN project showing the piping that we have expected and planned around. Future water for both indoor and outdoor use is dependant on this project and the water it would provide.

SUVMWA is very concerned with how much underground water can be used in our area and at what point will that development start to interfere with the environmental issues such as wet lands and in stream flows needed for wildlife and fish. We recently had one of our communities well go dry. Other cities have had to drop well pumps much deeper to find the water. Other cities have building moratoriums in place because of water restrictions.

MAYOR FRITZ MAYOR BROWN MAYOR CARTER MAYOR ALLAN MAYOR EVANS MAYOR  
BRAILSFORD MAYOR SCOVILL MAYOR BARNEY MAYOR BOYER MAYOR HARDING

Having the pipe lines from Strawberry Reservoir to our area will give us the pressure we need for water in our pressure irrigation systems and save considerable power consumption in not having to pump water into these systems. We very firmly believe the CUP water will be vital to the well being of our area environment.

We are very much in favor of the Bonneville Unit of the Central Utah Project. In fact we have been looking forward to the project and the water it would provide for our area for almost fifty years. Much of our area has been agriculture and has been in need of additional agricultural water. We were anticipating that as the agriculture use changed to municipal use, so would the use of the water change. All of our long term plans have be based on the ability to have access to the CUP water.

We are in favor of the amendments proposed in H. R. 4129 introduced on March 20, 2002 with one exception. We would request Section 202(a)(1)(B) of the Central Utah Project Completion Act (106 Stat. 4611) be revised to read "deliver irrigation water to lands in the Utah Lake drainage basin and municipal water within the Utah Lake drainage basin, exclusive of the features identified in section 201 (b)". We need to have facilities to deliver the water once we have the contracts in place for the water. Pipe lines need to be completed down to the mouth of Spanish Fork Canyon and then to the south and north with lines serving the ten cities. Lines were originally planned to be installed through south Utah County to east Juab County. These pipe lines are part what we have been planning on for a long period of time and several of the communities have already install pressurized irrigation pipe lines within their area anticipating delivery from the CUP pipe lines. Several million dollars have already been spent on these systems.

We appreciate the committee members time and efforts on this very vital project to our constituents. We ask for your consideration in helping to get this project finally completed.

Sincerely,

Randy Brailsford, Chairman

South County Mayors Group

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